

# **SEARCHLIGHT FOIA REQUEST**

## **DOCUMENT NUMBER**

**16**

**(Releasable)**



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER WEAPONS DIVISION  
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CHINA LAKE, CA 93555-6100 POINT MUGU, CA 93042-5049

IN REPLY REFER TO

5090  
Ser 50000MD/974  
13 Mar 13

From: Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division  
To: Commander, Naval Air Systems Command

Subj: PROPOSED IMPACT ZONE FOR AIRBORNE RADAR TESTING

Ref: (a) Section 358, Fiscal Year 2011 National Defense  
Authorization Act


Encl: (1) Determination of a High Risk of Adverse Impact Zone,  
Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, China Lake  
Ranges

1. To assist in protecting our airborne radar test mission, we developed a Proposed High Risk of Adverse Impact Zone (HRAIZ) as described in enclosure (1). I request that you concur with the package and forward to Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) N45 for further coordination and higher level approval. Once approved, it would be made available to land use jurisdictions, developers, and the public.

2. Airborne radar testing is a core Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) mission and is part of the Major Range Test Facility Base responsibly for providing full spectrum of aircraft Research, Development, Acquisition, Test and Evaluation (RDAT&E) capability for the joint services. The airborne radar test mission is non-severable, required, and validated but is threatened by the proliferation of wind turbine development in and around the R-2508 Complex. Current wind energy developments limit our ability to conduct airborne radar testing and validation towards the southwestern portion of the complex. Other planned wind energy projects threaten the NAWCWD ability to test in other directions. This experience and the increasing interest in wind energy development caused us to become more proactive in our approach to protecting the airborne radar RDAT&E mission. Accordingly, we coordinated with OPNAV, Navy Secretariat, and Office of the Secretary of Defense to jointly formulate the concept of a HRAIZ, which is an outgrowth of reference (a). Enclosure (1) formalizes the concept.

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3. My point of contact is Mr. Anthony M. Parisi, (805) 989-9209, DSN 437-9209, or via email at anthony.parisi@navy.mil.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P.A. Sohl', is written over the printed name and title.

P. A. SOHL  
RDML USN

Copy to:

Commander, Navy Region Southwest

Commanding Officer, Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake